



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10

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OFFICE OF
ECOSYSTEMS, TRIBAL AND
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MAY 29 2012

Douglas F. Corkran
Project Environmental Lead
Bonneville Power Administration – TKEC-4
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

Re: Comments on the final EIS for Albany-Eugene Transmission Line Rebuild Project
(EPA Project Number: 10-058-BPA).

Dear Mr. Corkran:

In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the proposed **Albany-Eugene Transmission Line Rebuild Project** in Lane and Linn Counties, Oregon.

In our comments on the draft EIS in March 2012, the EPA suggested that the FEIS include:

- Updated information on the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit application and related conditions to protect water quality.
- Approaches for working collaboratively with Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) in implementing Water Quality Restoration Plans associated with the Upper Willamette River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).
- Outcomes of consultations with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service, including recommended measures to reduce risks and protect biota and habitat.
- Information on the project's environmental inspection and mitigation-monitoring program.

The FEIS was responsive to our comments. In particular, we appreciate additional clarifying information on measures to protect and preserve water quality and biological resources within the project area. We are also pleased with BPA's commitments to work with other Federal, State, and local government agencies to protect resources in the analysis area. Your responses address our comments.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this FEIS. If you have any question about our comments, please contact me at (206) 553-1601 or by electronic mail at reichgott.christine@epa.gov, or you may contact Theo Mbabaliye of my staff at (206) 553-6322 or electronic mail at mbabaliye.theogene@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Christine B. Reichgott, Manager
Environmental Review and Sediment Management Unit